

REMENDER • CRAIG • LOUGHRIDGE

DEADLY CLASS

TM



1987

#6

IMAGE COMICS, INC.

ROBERT KIRKMAN - chief operating officer
ERIK LARSEN - chief financial officer
TODD MCFARLANE - president
MARC SILVESTRI - chief executive officer
JIM VALENTINO - vice-president
ERIC STEPHENSON - publisher
RON RICHARDS - director of business development
JENNIFER DE GUZMAN - director of trade book sales
KAT SALAZAR - director of PR & marketing
JEREMY SULLIVAN - director of digital sales
EMILIO BAUTISTA - sales assistant
BRANWYN BIGGLESTONE - senior accounts manager
EMILY MILLER - accounts manager
JESSICA AMBRIZ - administrative assistant
TYLER SHAINLINE - events coordinator
DAVID BROTHERS - content manager
JONATHAN CHAN - production manager
DREW GILL - art director
MEREDITH WALLACE - print manager
MONICA GARCIA - senior production artist
JENNA SAVAGE - production artist
ADDISON DUKE - production artist
TRICIA RAMOS - production assistant
IMAGECOMICS.COM

DEADLY CLASS™ #6. June 2014. Published by Image Comics, Inc.

Office of publication: 2001 Center Street, 6th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704.
Copyright © 2014 Rick Remender. All rights reserved. DEADLY CLASS™ (including all prominent characters featured herein), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Rick Remender, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics and its logos are registered trademarks and copyrights of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental.

DIGITAL EDITION.

For international rights inquiries, contact:
foreignlicensing@imagecomics.com





DON'T
MOVE, SHIT
STAIN!



OKAY,
NIIICE AND
EASY--

HANDS
ON YOUR
HEAD,
VATO.

SIR. YES,
SIR.

PSST! HEY,
MARCUS!

WAKE
UP, DICK
BRAINS!



HEAD TRAUMA
AND AN OVERDOSE
OF LSD--**GREAT
HOOBIDITY-
DOOBITY!**

THAT'S A
BAD MIX,
AIN'T IT?

WHAT...
WHAT IS
THIS...



THIS?

THIS IS
HELL,
YOU SILLY
BUTTHOLE!

NOW LISTEN,
YOU AND ME,
WE'VE BOTH BEEN
THROUGH SOME
HEAVY SHIT
TOGETHER, SO I'M
GONNA LEVEL
WITH YOU...

...YOU'RE
FUCKED
BUT **GOOD**,
CHUMMLY!

RIGHT UP
YOUR FACE
AND ASS!





DEADLY CLASSES

RICK REMENDER
writer-co-creators

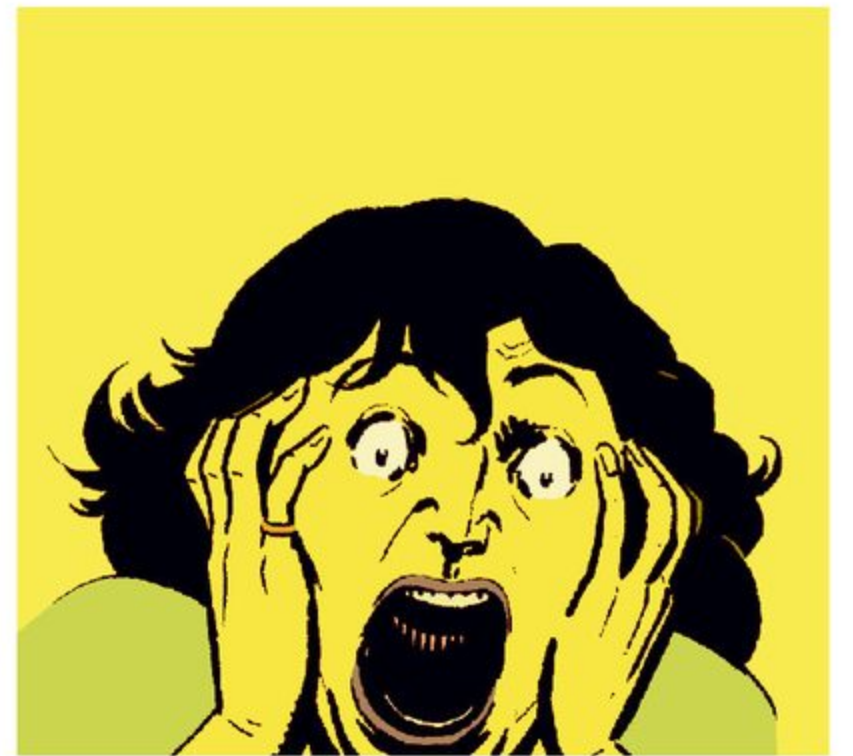
WES CRAIG
artist

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
colorist

RUS WOOTON
letterer

SEBASTIAN GIRNER
editor







JAMAICA. I KNEW IT WAS A GOOD CALL. SAYA WANTED MAUI BUT THAT'S TOO BUILT UP NOW.

THIS IS AN ISLAND PARADISE.

IT'S HUMAN.



WE DRINK RED STRIPE AND BUY CHEAP WEED. SHE FUCKS ME ON THE BEACH AT NIGHT. SHE WAILS LIKE A DYING COYOTE.

SAYA... FOR HER I'D DIE. FOR HER I'D--



YO, COME ON, MAN.

GET OUT OF THE DAMN TRASH.



MAN, WHEN YOU CAME TO THE SCHOOL EVERYBODY WAS TALKING ABOUT WHAT YOU DID, TALKING ABOUT HOW YOU'RE SOME KIND OF CRAZY KILLER.

NOBODY WITH ANY SKILL, OR SENSE, WOULD PULL THIS LEVEL STUPID.

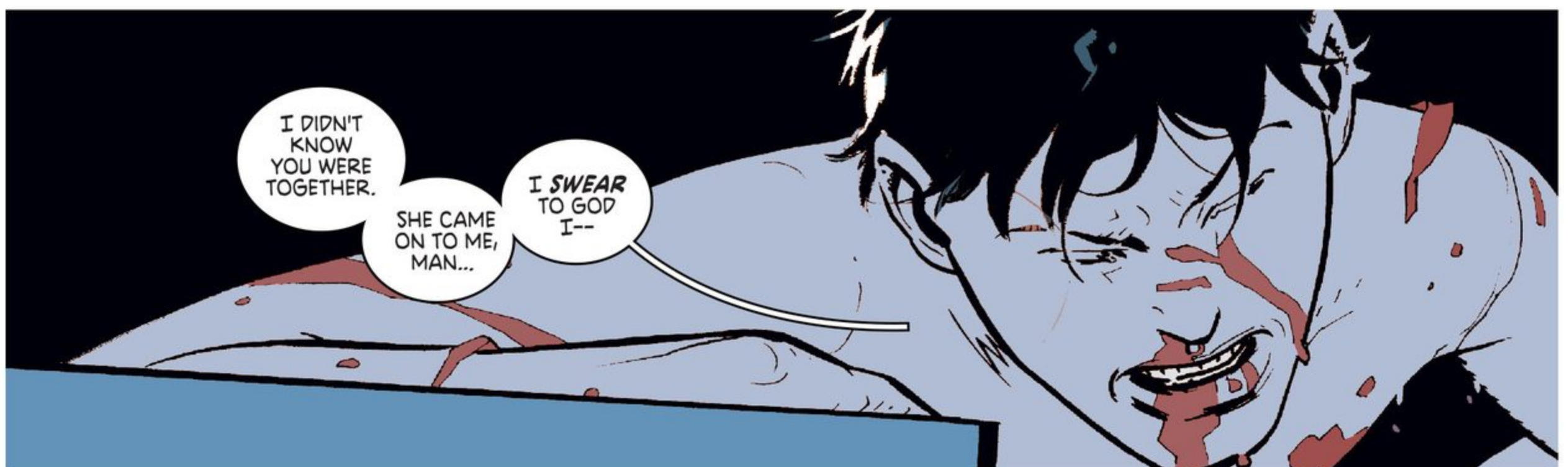


MY FAMILY SAVED MARIA. YOU KNOW THAT?

SHE WAS JUST LIKE YOU, A STREET RAT, NO PARENTS, NO FUTURE.

GUESS YOU RATS CAN SMELL EACH OTHER.

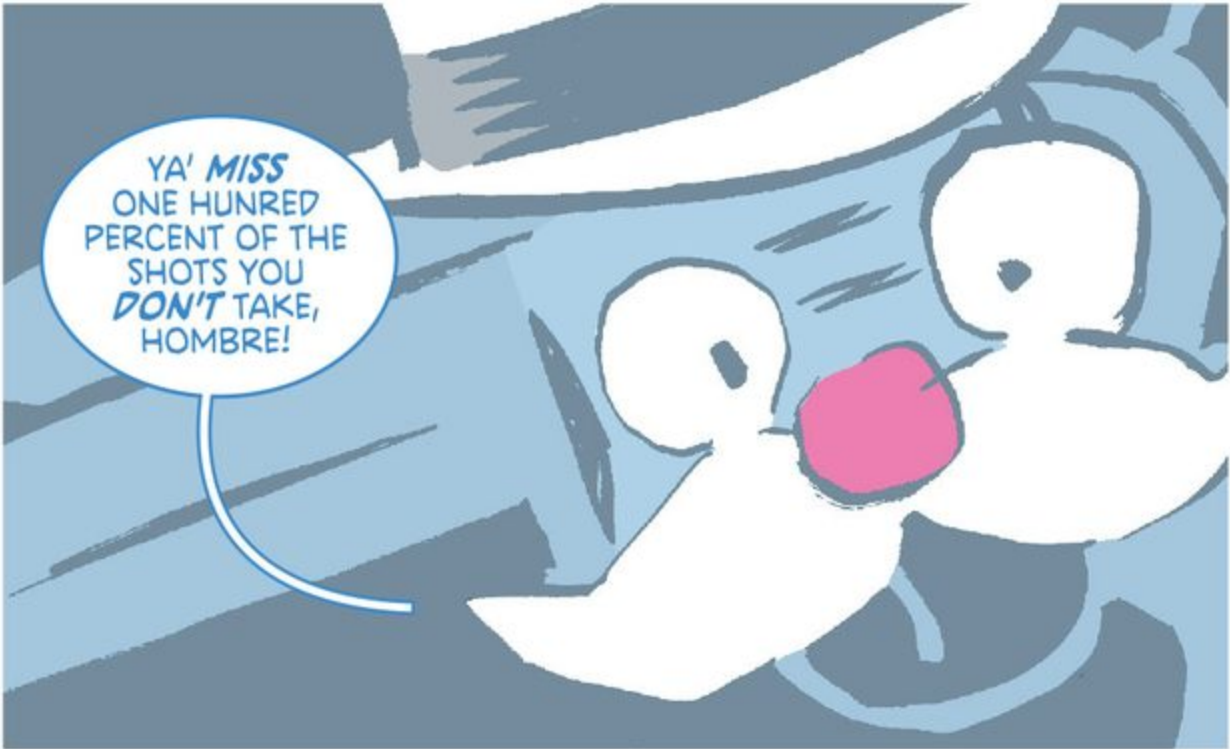
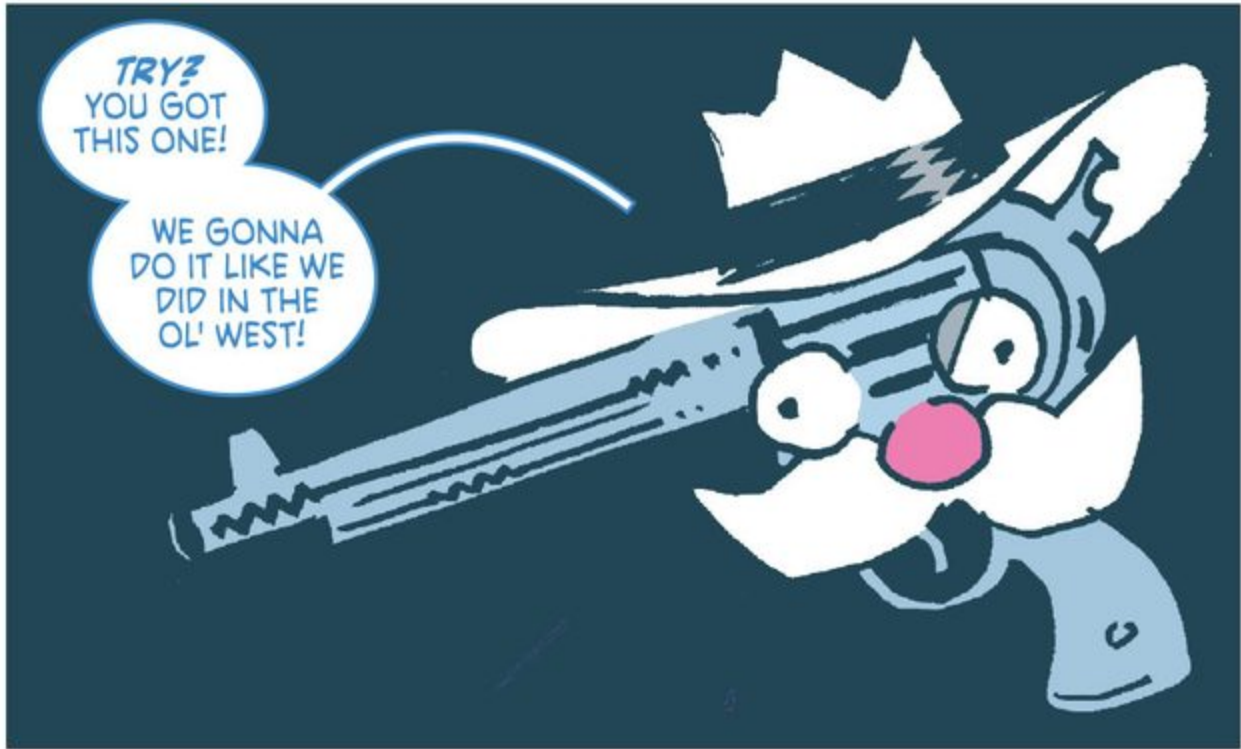
I DIDN'T...



I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE TOGETHER.

SHE CAME ON TO ME, MAN...

I SWEAR TO GOD I--







WHAT DID YOU DO, CHICO?!

CHICO, MAN, FUCK--!
CALM DOWN!



JUST... CALM DOWN.

THINK ABOUT THIS.

YOU CAN'T KILL ANOTHER STUDENT. MASTER LIN WILL FLAY YOU.



I GET IT MAN-- YOU'RE *SUPER* PISSED.

BUT IT'S THAT CLASSIC THING WHERE YOU'RE BEATING UP THE GUY FOR DOING WHAT ANY OF US WOULD DO.

HE'S NEW, MAN, HE DOESN'T KNOW *SHIT*.



WE JUST ATE SOME BAD ACID. EVERYBODY WAS JUST OUT OF THEIR HEADS.

MARCUS LEARNED HIS LESSON. THIS IS JUST A *BIG* MISTAKE, MAN.



MISTAKE?

URK--

SHANK





I'D SAY
"LOOKING AT"
IS MINIMIZING
WHAT YOU WERE
DOING.

IS THAT
WHAT I
WALKED IN
ON?

AN OLD
FASHION DICK-
LOOKING?

UNLESS YOU
WERE JUST
PLANNING ON
LOOKING AT
HIS **DICK**.



AFTER
EVERYTHING
MY FAMILY
HAS DONE
FOR YOU.

**YOU'D BE
DEAD IF IT
WEREN'T FOR
ME!**



**I AM DEAD,
MOTHERFUCKER!
AND I NEVER
ASKED FOR
YOUR HELP!**

**I NEVER
ASKED FOR
ANY OF
IT!**



YOUR FAMILY
DIDN'T SAVE ME--
**THEY USED ME!
USED ME
TO KILL!**

A SWEET
LITTLE CHICA
WHO COULD GET
INTO ANY PLACE,
GET CLOSE TO
ANY TARGET--

A SWEET
LITTLE CHICA
TO PLANT BOMBS
ON YOUR
RIVALS!



IS THAT
WHAT YOUR
LOVE IS,
CHICO?

USING
ME AS A
MULE?



USING ME
TO CART
EXPLOSIVES?

**SHUT
UP!**

IS THAT
HOW YOUR
FAMILY SHOWS
LOVE?



**SHUT
THE FUCK
UP.**



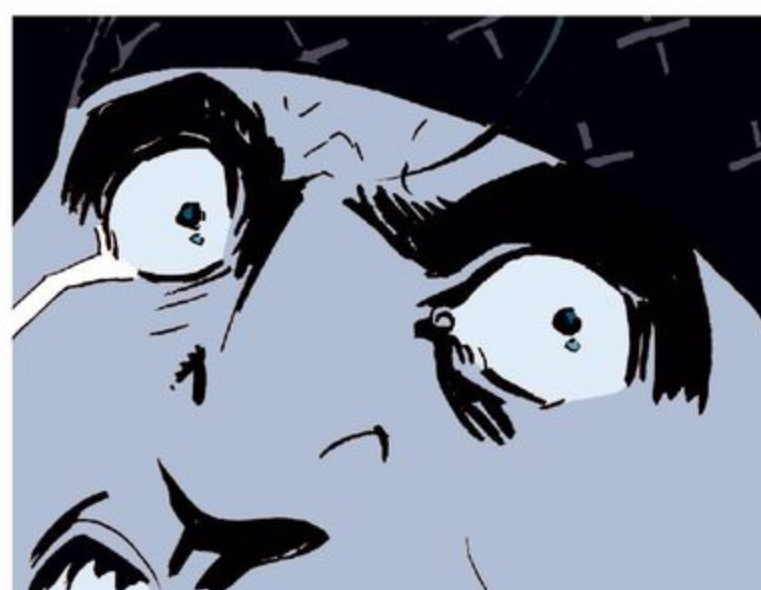
**FORCING
ME TO BE
THEIR SON'S
WHORE?!**



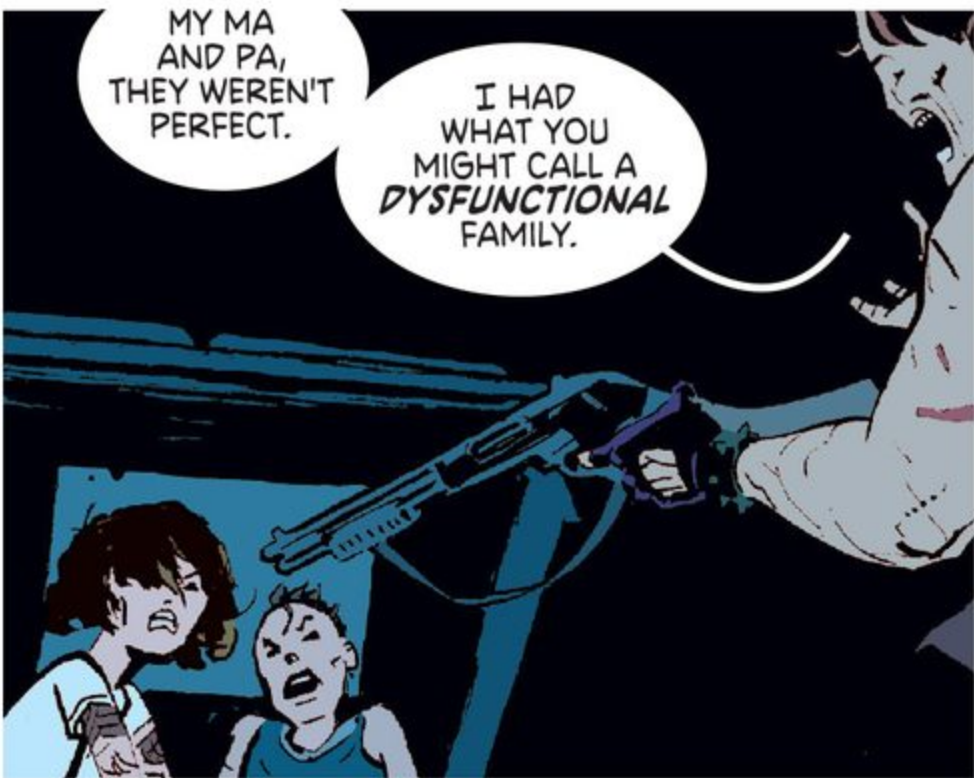














Y'ALL BETTER
TRAIN UP THIS
MOTHERFUCKER
TO BE READY
TO DEFEND
HIMSELF.

I'M A SADISTIC,
TWIT REDNECK WHO
LIKES TO FUCK SHEEP
AND TORTURE FLIES
AN' I AM HIS
**MORTAL
ENEMY!**



I WANT 'IM
IN SHAPE
FOR A REAL
HOLLYWOOD
BARN
DANCE.



ALL RIGHT
THEN, TIT-
LICKERS.

I'M
TAKING
OL' CHICO
WITH ME.



NEVER KNOW
WHEN YOU'LL
NEED A DEAD
SPIC.



PURR



POOR GIRL,
YOU'RE ALL
SKIN AN'
BONES.

AIN'T
BEEN FED
IN DAYS.

C'MON...



MROOOW?



I GOT
JUST THE
THING.





WE BURIED BILLY'S DAD DEEP IN THE MOHAVE DESERT. NO ONE SAID A WORD.

WE GOT STITCHED UP AT ONE OF THE SECRET BACK DOOR MEDICAL CLINICS LISTED IN OUR GUILD HANDBOOK. THE ACID HAD WORN OFF, BUT THE ADRENALINE FRIED OUR NERVES. THE DOC GAVE US ENOUGH VALIUM TO KEEP MOVING, TO FIGHT THE PARALYSIS.

AT SOME POINT ON THE WAY I DOZED OFF FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DAYS. WOKE UP BACK ON THE STREETS, FALLING INTO THAT DARK HOLE.

UNTIL EVENTUALLY I JUST ACCEPTED IT.

ACCEPTED MY DESCENT. ACCEPTED EACH DAY WOULD BE WORSE THAN THE ONE BEFORE IT.

A HORRIBLE TATTOO HAD SPREAD ALL OVER MY ARM UP TO MY FACE. THE LADY WHO GAVE IT TO ME WAS THERE, IN THE SHADOWS, WHERE I USED TO LIVE. SHE TOOK MY HAND AND LED ME TO THE BAY, BY THE WATER.

SHE KISSED ME AND WHISPERED, "LIFE TATTOOS US WITH DAMAGE AS A REMINDER. IT'S INKED ONTO YOUR FACE AND BODY NOW."



"IT WON'T BE VISIBLE WHEN YOU AWAKEN, BUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR WILL SEE IT, OTHER VICTIMS OF THE SAME NEEDLE."

"IT TAKES TIME TO SEE THEM. IT TAKES TIME TO SEE ANYONE'S REAL DAMAGE."

"BUT YOUR PEOPLE WILL SEE THE COLORS--LIKE A FLAG--AND THEY WILL CALL YOU HOME TO THEM."



I WOKE UP WITH A PROFOUND AND INDESCRIBABLE FEELING.

A SPECIFIC SENSATION I HAVEN'T HAD SINCE I WAS A KID, SINCE MY PARENTS WERE ALIVE.

A FEELING I HADN'T HAD SINCE CHILDHOOD. AND EVEN THEN, ONLY ONCE. A FRIEND HAD COME OVER FOR THE WEEKEND, I REMEMBER HAVING SO MUCH FUN, IT WAS ABSOLUTELY PERFECT. AND THEN, SUDDENLY--IT WAS OVER. MY FRIEND HAD GONE HOME...

AND I WAS LEFT ALONE.

I WAS SITTING ON A SWING, WHERE, MOMENTS AGO, WE WERE LAUGHING AND PLAYING.

BUT EVERYTHING WAS QUIET.



A SUDDEN DROP-OFF FROM THE CONNECTION FELT MOMENTS BEFORE.

A PUNCTUATED ENDING FOLLOWED BY THAT INVOLUNTARY REFLECTION THAT HAPPENS WHEN LIFE QUICKLY CHANGES FROM FAST TO SLOW.



AND EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T FELT IT SINCE THAT DAY--

I'M AT HOME IN IT. COCOONED IN THE TRANQUILITY AND PEACE OF SOME LAST PIECE OF INNOCENCE THAT STILL EXISTS IN MY HEART.



A SMALL BOY.

SITTING ON A SWING.

WATCHING THE SUNSET.



FINALLY WANTING TO LIVE.



IN A PLACE
SURROUNDED
BY DEATH.



WC
|||

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

So, there it is, the end of the 1st story arc. A crew of misfits bonded over a dark secret that promises to haunt them for some time to come. I think we've set up most of our major cast members at this point in our core group of Marcus, Maria, Saya, Billy and Willie. That's our little clique and the people we'll be following for as long as they should survive. It's 2am and just I finished writing issue #7, and I wish I could tell you all about it and what's coming up for the kids. I want to thank everybody who has supported this series so far. The sales have been tremendous and the readers' reactions overwhelming. This book is such a strange amalgam of so many things I've wanted to do, but wasn't sure if people would want to read it. Your support is a wonderful validation and better yet, it enables me to continue making this book. But let's face it: with what Wes, Lee and Rus are putting together on these pages I could be writing a comic book about most anything, and it would be hard not to pick it up. I'm handing off the responses to our trusty editor Sebastian, so that I can get some sleep.

SG - Thanks, Rick. Way past your bedtime!

Remender,

I came into music and comics post-punk, post-Watchmen/Dark Knight, post-everything that I would grow to love. There's always been a disconnect between time, myself, and the things I care about. I always feel like I'm chasing the echoes decades later. I'll never see an Operation Ivy basement show or watch Ian McKay get trashed by overzealous cops (Not that I really want that). I won't ever get to walk into a shop and have a guy hand me something called Watchmen #1 and experience a storytelling renaissance unfolding in my favorite medium first hand.

The things I loved and the time they were created in always left me alienated.

Those transformative blessings passed before I was even born.

However, I do get to experience this comic, issue by issue, now. And I have to say that you should be afraid - this is your best work yet and I fear you will never top it. I've read almost all of it from Strange Girl to Uncanny Avengers,

but you will never beat this. Sorry not sorry.

I run a shop in Florida and I read over a hundred comics a month, not counting the backlog of material I go through on a regular basis that consumes all moments not reserved for the selling of comics, and this is one of the few books that brings me to my knees when I read it.

You are writing a biography for every out of step kid that ever existed, that ever wanted to love and be loved, that ever had so much rage they didn't know how to handle it properly and took it out on themselves. It's a book for the disenfranchised teenager, so often tossed aside, their problems with growth and self-understanding flattened and negated by adults who've forgotten the terrible self-awareness of all that's wrong with yourself and the world.

So, go give your fellow co-creators a hug, you fortunate bastard. I don't know how you've gotten the class of artist and inker and letterer you always have, but you better hope karma doesn't hit you with a falling satellite in return for all the luck you've had with finding the perfect people to tell your stories.

But I am glad you do. This comic will always find a new reader under my watch and I can only hope that it's some punk kid with nowhere to go and looking for something to love.

And with that, I'll leave you to your work.

In Vitam Mortem,

Jim M.
Orlando, FL

SG - Thanks, Jim. I know your letter really struck a chord with Rick, this is a very personal comic for him to write. Hearing that the characters resonate with readers all over the world really helps him chug along when things get hectic, as they often do. We'll keep working to make this a comic you can look forward to month after month, and hopefully catch glimpses of that punk kid you used to be (and probably still are at heart.)

Hello Deadly Class Crew,

I wanted to commend you guys on a

class job. I know its not as kush as working for the Big Two but your labor of love is paying off! I tell everyone I know and even gave some issues to friends. I was behind reading a couple issues and I must say reading a few at once is making me very anxious waiting for the next one. The anticipation is exciting and it helps me appreciate all the hard work that goes into what you do every month. Bravo! I also am very happy you chose the Bay Area as the setting. The story is very cinematic and what else goes better with the '80s? Movie soundtracks, of course. I really loved the Dead concert spread. AMAZING! What really caught my eye was the Hunter S. Thompson Easter egg. Devil's in the details right? Once again good job and keep it up I look forward to this contribution of culture to my world.

Best,
Val de la Rosa
Oakland, CA

SG- Cheers, Val. And thanks for spreading the good word! We're getting the first trade paperback of DEADLY CLASS ready to print right now. That'll be a nice collection to pass off to friends and family and recruit some more students for Kings Dominion! Keep an eye out for that in July!

Hey man, long story short, I took about a twenty year layoff from comic books. I stumbled onto an old *Amazing Spider-Man* in my crawl space last year, and with the help of a couple of buddies who are comic book fans and discovering the convenience of the Comixology app, I'm back into comics like I'm 15 all over again.

I started with New 52 as I thought that was perfect for a noob like me to get his dick wet. From there, I crossed over into Marvel and got caught up on that crazy universe, and from there I REALLY got to dig what Image comics is doing. When the smoke cleared, I can say the majority of my "must have" monthly buys are from Image.

Recently, my buddy highly recommended an old run of *Uncanny X-force* and since I've been raving about Uncanny Avengers being hands down the best Marvel book, he said the same dude who wrote UA wrote this epic *X-Force* run. Thirty-four issues later and a re-read of *Uncanny Avengers*, and now Rick Remender has joined my

own personal tier of ELITE comic cook writers (Snyder, Remender, Fraction).

I just got caught up on DEADLY CLASS, and I just wanted to email you to say GREAT FUCKING JOB, DUDE! I don't follow sales or anything like that, but if this isn't a top 20 kind of bestseller each month, it's a travesty. I love seeing you cut loose and being able to do what you want creatively with Image sort of "R-rated" compared to being tied up to PG-13 with Marvel (not that that gets in your way creatively; your books can be pretty dark and grimy). I know Marvel is the company that gets you PAID, but I sense a great passion with DEADLY CLASS, and I hope it sells so you guys can hopefully put together a helluva run both for me as a fan, and for you guys to pay the bills.

Keep it up!
Wally Digital

SG- Welcome back, Wally! No one can stay away from comics for too long. Too much strange, crazy, awesome shit to be read and pored over, both at the Two Big'uns and over here in the shadows, were freaks like us love to wallow. Rick has the good fortune of living and preying in both worlds, like the Daywalker! Hope to see you back for Issue #7, because we're not done with poor Marcus, not by a long shot.

Hard to believe that this is the first time I have ever written to a comic, but DEADLY CLASS is a special book. I don't think I've ever been this blown away by a title, one of the best-written and looking books I have ever seen. I just finished issue #3 and I can't wait for more. I not only love the story but I also love the way you perfectly capture 1987. I've been rocking your playlist and am proud to say that I had about 95% of those tunes, so hats off to that. I don't know exactly what I want to say here except great job and you have a new fan that will not only be following this book religiously but also any other of your projects (*Black Science*, *Low*).

Take Care,
Jonathan P.

SG- Glad you're busting that letters page cherry on DEADLY CLASS! You'll always remember your first time. And you speak truth, Wes and Lee have gotten better and better every single issue so far. I'm STILL finding little details that Wes drew into every

panel of every page. He's too good. One day he will rule us all...

Rick,

Just finished the first issue of DEADLY CLASS, and I must say, I am an instant fan. The story was awesome, and the artwork is amazing. Then I got to your mini-bio, and now I will forever be a DEADLY CLASS fan!! I too am from Phoenix... I too am from "1987"... I too moved from Phoenix in the 8th grade... except I moved to a hillbilly town in Tennessee!! Talk about outcast!! I never moved back, but I have graduated to Nashville and at the ripe age of... somewhere near 40... have picked comics back up and am completely engrossed in what you have written. Please keep up the great work, and if you don't mind, I will continue to shoot a fellow Phoenician emails from time to time.

Thanks dude!!!
Anthony P.

SG- Thank YOU, Anthony. Rick has told me a few stories about growing up in Phoenix, so my condolences to you. But you've punched your way all the way to 40, so you must've learned one thing or another about survival. Glad to have you on board, and please do write back soon!

Dear Rick,

I first got reeled into the world of DEADLY CLASS when I read a synopsis of the comic somewhere. I read "school for assassins" and "'80s underground" and I was convinced. I have not been disappointed. You and Wes have captured the violence and concrete of the time perfectly, and I've been even more impressed than I expected by Kings Dominion.

But the thing I didn't anticipate was how much I'd love Marcus. Despite all his issues he's endearing and I want to see where his story will take him. Having been an outsider my whole life as well, his tale is one that resonates. (And in the latest issue, where Marcus describes his "emotional paranoia"... Well, I actually wanted to write you after the second issue, and I will inevitably spend hours later agonizing over what I've written here, so let's just say I'm well familiar with that particular brand of crazy.)

So I just wanted to say that DEADLY CLASS is my new favourite comic. It's consistently excellent, a beauty to look at, and a story that I genuinely look forward to reading more of each month. There hasn't been a comic out in a long time that's made me feel excited for the next issue.

So thank you Rick, and keep up the good work. I'll be sticking with Marcus this school year and the next.
Zainabb, London

P.S. The playlist idea is the BEST idea! I've been expanding my 80s Choons library significantly, based on those picks. Cannot wait for more.

Rick & Co.,

Just finished DEADLY CLASS #3... Holy shit, has it only been 3 issues? I feel like so much has happened, surely this was issue 6 or something, right? This book is incredible, and the story and characters are so engaging... It can't come out fast enough, and I look forward to more.

So long and thanks for all the blood.

- Erik

SG - You are very welcome! Now it really HAS been six issues and we're gonna need to send one of those crime scene cleanup crews through to mop the place up a bit.

That's all for the first arc, everyone! We're going to take a short break to catch up but we will be back soon. School is out for summer, but definitely not forever!

DEADLY CLASS #7 will be on sale in September! Make a note, write it on your bathroom mirror in red lipstick or, better yet, tell your friendly comic shop clerk to preorder you a copy, so it will be waiting for you!

Thanks again from Rick, Wes, Lee, Rus, and myself for making these first six issues such a rousing success! Keep sending in those letters, and we'll see you back here real soon!

Cheers all,
SG

WES
CRAIG'S
PROJECTS



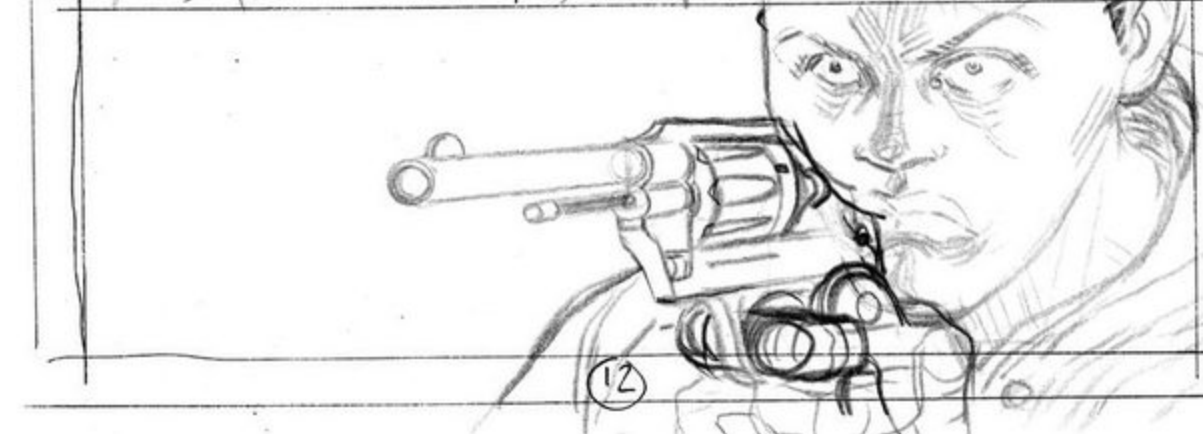
WES
CRAIG'S
PROJECTS



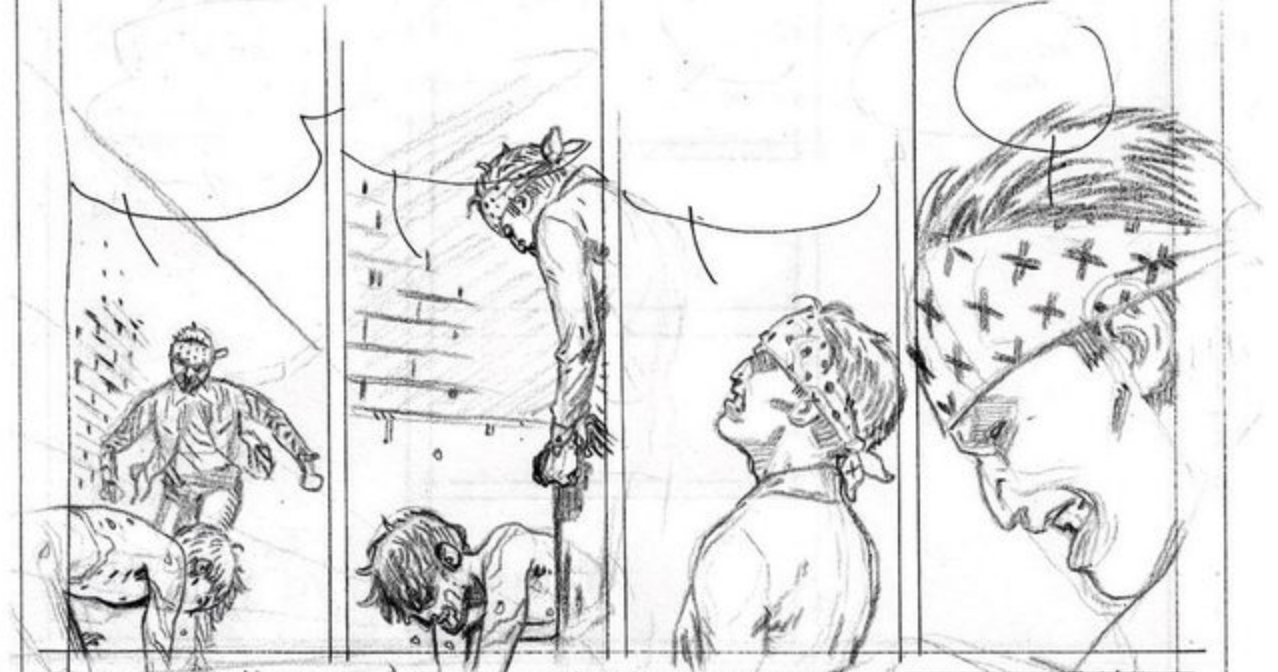
12



13



12



13



FROM
THE WRITER OF
BLACK SCIENCE
AND THE ARTIST OF
**UNCANNY
X-FORCE**

LOW™ © 2014
Rick Remender &
Greg Tocchini.
All rights reserved.
Image Comics®
and its logos
are registered
trademark of Image
Comics, Inc.



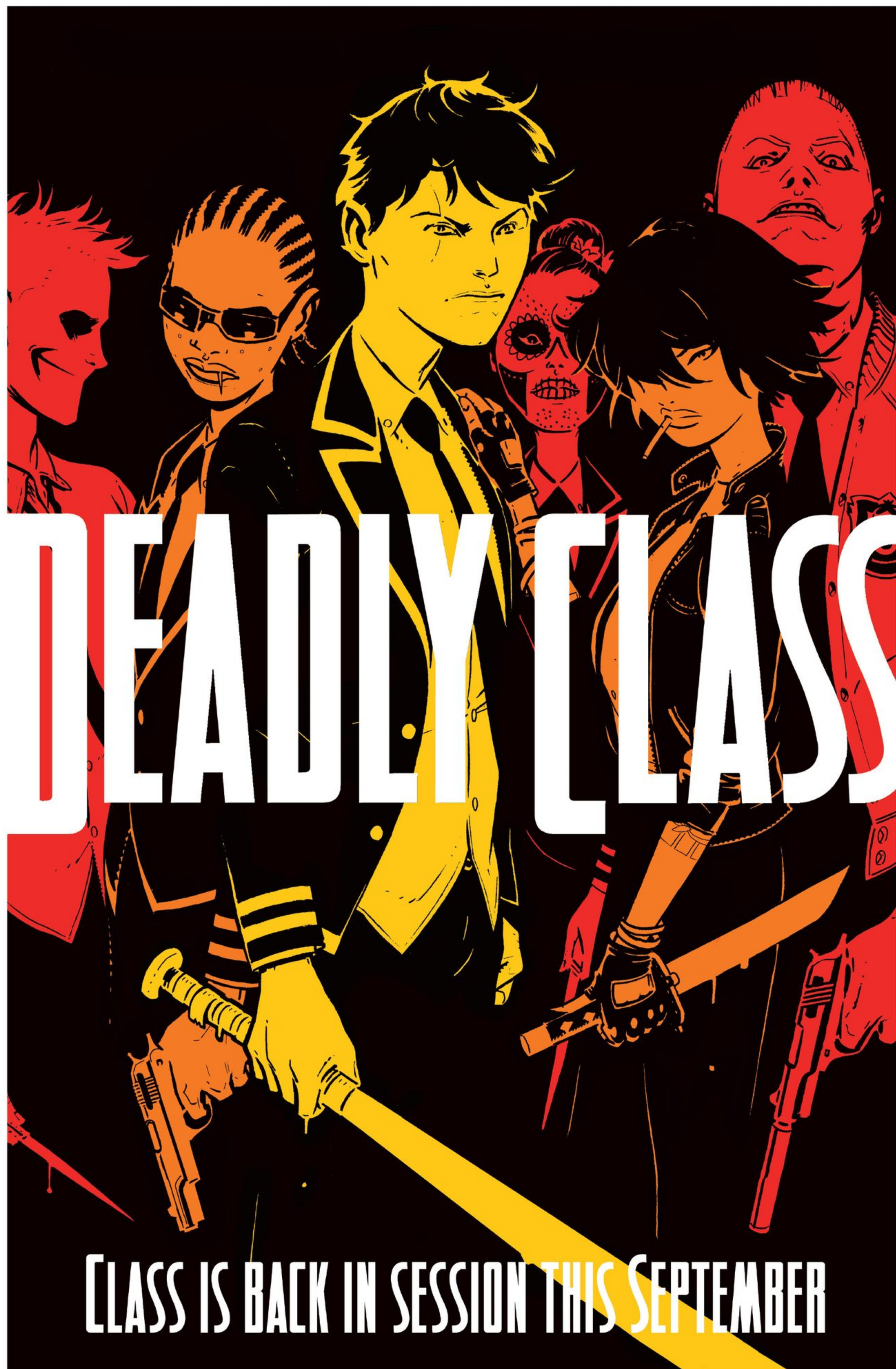
DIVE INTO
AN AQUATIC,
SCIENCE-FICTION
FANTASY,
FOLLOWING TWO TEAMS,
FROM THE LAST
REMAINING
CITIES UNDERSEA...

...AS THEY RACE
TO THE MOST
UNEXPECTED ALIEN
WORLD OF ALL—
THE SURFACE
OF EARTH

IN

REMENDER • TOCCHINI

LOW™ JULY
2014
IMAGECOMICS.COM



CLASS IS BACK IN SESSION THIS SEPTEMBER



IMAGECOMICS.COM

RATED **M** / MATURE